

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-17 are pending in the instant case. Claims 1-6, and 8-14 are rejected. Claims 15-17 are allowed. Claim 7 is objected to.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

a) Claims 1-6, 8-14

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, and 8-14, as unpatentable over Bui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,329,831.

The present invention of claim 1 addresses a way of calibrating a power supply used in a semiconductor tester to bias one or more semiconductor devices-under-test. Conventionally, calibration was performed externally (to the tester) by using a custom device-interface-board. The present invention employs an internal calibration scheme in the form of internal load circuitry that selectively simulates the electrical loading of a DUT. This eliminates the need to change device-interface-boards when calibrating versus testing.

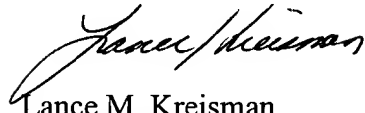
Bui discloses a conventional automatic test system for testing semiconductor devices. Because the disclosure is at the test system level, very little disclosure relates to the specific construction of the supporting systems and components, such as the DUT power supply (described in Bui as the "driver card" that biases the DUTs). There is no description nor hint at how the driver card is calibrated to ensure that an accurate voltage is consistently applied to the DUTs.

It is well known that anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *In re Robertson*, 169 F.3d 743, 49 U.S.P.Q.2d 1949 (Fed. Cir. 1999)(*reversing Board of Patent Appeals & Interference's finding of anticipation under §102*).

In direct contrast to claim 1, which recites the load circuitry for selectively simulating a DUT, Bui fails to describe or remotely suggest any calibration scheme for the power supply, much less a scheme that employs internal load circuitry.

For the reasons discussed above, claim 1 is believed allowable over the cited art. Because claims 2-6 and 8-14 depend directly and indirectly from claim 1, those claims are believed allowable also.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lance M. Kreisman".

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